

Hybrid prism-grating stretcher

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Offner triplet telescope stretcher for the PEARL laser facility



PEARL – PEtawatt pARametric Laser Schematic of light propagation through an eight-pass singlegrating Offner stretcher. The circled numbers specify the sequence in which the pulse being chirped falls on the grating 3

Hybrid prism-grating stretcher of PEARL laser system





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Nonlinear crystal KD*P for OPCPA

Laser Physics, Vol. 15, No. 9, 2005, pp. 1319–1333. Original Text Copyright © 2005 by Astro, Ltd. Copyright © 2005 by MAIK "Nauka/Interperiodica" (Russia) ADVANCED LASER SYSTEMS — AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

Study of Broadband Optical Parametric Chirped Pulse Amplification in a DKDP Crystal Pumped by the Second Harmonic of a Nd:YLF Laser

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For the pump wavelength of 527 nm the optimal wavelength of the collimated signal radiation is 910 nm.

The wavelength of conjugated radiation is 1250 nm.





Chirp reversal

In three-wave interaction, the linear chirps of the idle and signal waves have the opposite sign.

 $\Delta \Phi_1(\omega_{10} + \Omega) = - \Delta \Phi_2(\omega_{20} - \Omega)$

R. Danelius, A. Piskarskas, V. Sirutkaitis, A. Stabinis, and A. Yankauskas, "Chirp reversal of picosecond light pulses in parametric amplification in quadratically nonlinear media," JETP Lett. 42, 122–124 (1985).













The classical Treacy compressor





Hybrid grating-prism stretcher

A prism pair, located between the diffraction gratings in a divergent beam, can make a more significant contribution to the cubic phase of the system than in the case of a collimated beam falling on the prisms.



S.Kane, J.Squier, J.V.Rudd, and G.Mourou, "Hybrid Grating-Prism Stretcher-Compressor System with Cubic Phase and Wavelength Tunability and Decreased Alignment Sensitivity", Opt.Lett., 19, 1876-1878 (1994).

Prism/grating aberration-free stretcher design for PEARL system





Prism/grating aberration-free stretcher design for PEARL system



Calculations showed that a stretcher with a pair of intragrating prisms allows to accurately compensate the residual dispersion up to the 4-th order inclusive for the OPRCPA system.



A single-grating scheme of the stretcher was developed.

A central wavelength - 1250 nm The bandwidth - 1000 cm⁻¹ Transmission coefficient - 50%

G.I. Freidman and I.V. Yakovlev, "New stretcher scheme for a parametric amplifier of chirped pulses with frequency conversion", Quantum Electron. 37(2), 147-148, 2007.





1 - grating shift, 2&3 – small prism shift, 4 - change the angle of incidence

Single-shot ACF series obtained when changing compressor base by means of the grating moving in the direction normal to the operating surface



The effect of third order dispersion on the ACF form





Some task: get 2 pulses from a laser system with significantly different durations: 60 ps and 60 fs. To get 60 ps pulses at the compressor output, it is require to detune the compressor base (the distance between each pair of gratings) by 16 cm. Such a large shift is not possible due to the technical limitations of the mechanical translators used.



4 diffraction gratings 420x220 mm, 1200 lines/mm inside compressor

PEARL laser system compressor

An alternative way to obtain picosecond pulses is to shift the stretcher grating. The calculations showed that the shift of the horizontal roof mirror only to 3 cm from the grating and moving a small prism on 1 cm needs to provide the duration of the output pulses of the compressor 60 ps. In this case, the pulse will be "undercompressed", i.e., to obtain a femtosecond pulse, an additional system on diffraction gratings is required.

Such an additional compressor was created on two diffraction gratings with a groovs density of 1200 l./mm and a base of 16 cm.



The beam with a diameter of 3 cm was cut off from the main laser beam by a mirror and directed to an additional compressor.





